

Eastern issues were at the forefront of Scott's advocacy and he led some 25 delegations to the Middle East with increasing success over three decades of involvement. Since the mid-1970s Scott attempted to amplify the voices of Israelis and Palestinians who are committed to participating in a nonviolent struggle for lasting peace. Scott's tenacity and passion provided the foundation from which the Resource Center for Nonviolence has continued to prosper to this day. His later heavy involvement with the Washington, D.C.-based group Interfaith Peace Builders only adds to his great strides toward world peace. His lifetime of humanitarian service was honored in 2010 when he received the Pfeffer Peace Prize.

The Loma Prieta earthquake in 1989 was a jumping off point for Scott's local political career. Several affordable housing activists, afraid the disaster would result in a lack of affordable housing, recruited Scott to be their voice and run for city council. During his time in elected office, he worked to construct low-income housing, build a community soccer field, pass a resolution against the first Iraq war and permanently preserve several greenbelt properties on the city's perimeter. His intelligence and passion challenged and taught those who served alongside him to do their very best for Santa Cruz.

Throughout all of these great achievements, Scott had the stalwart support of his loving family. He is survived by his wife and soulmate, Kristin (Kris), his two sons, Peter and Benjamin and his daughter Megan, who served in this Chamber as a Congressional House Page. His entire family actively supported his work by door-to-door canvassing and later travelling to Israel and Palestine. Scott described his family, and his wife Kris in particular, as his bedrock. The support she gave him made possible his lifelong humanitarian and political success.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the House of Representatives, I would like to extend our Nation's deepest condolences to Scott Kennedy's family for their loss. I would like to honor his great struggle for peace and his service to the City of Santa Cruz. He was a treasured Mayor, father, and husband and he will be greatly missed.

RECOGNIZING THE COLONIAL HIGH SCHOOL CHAMBER CHOIR

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2011

Mr. WEBSTER. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize the Colonial High School Chamber Choir during their visit to Washington, DC. Founded in 1959, Colonial High School is located in Orlando and is committed to educating its students in a learning environment based on excellence in academic performance, enabling students to become productive and responsible citizens.

The Chamber Choir is made up of 26 audition-selected students from the 150-student Colonial High School Chorus. Their talent is most recently marked by an invitation to perform at the White House on Friday, December 9, 2011. The parents and educators of these students should be very proud of the dedication and discipline required to get to this level.

On behalf of the citizens of Florida's 8th Congressional District, I am pleased to recognize the Colonial High School Chamber Choir and congratulate the students for their hard work and accomplishment.

A TRIBUTE TO REV. BYRON LEAVANCE BENTON

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2011

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Rev. Byron LeaVance Benton for his pastoral and community service that has benefited the youth and religious community of Brooklyn.

Rev. Benton, a native of Greensboro, North Carolina, is a graduate of North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University where he majored in Business Education with a concentration in Administrative Systems. He earned his Master's of Divinity degree from Princeton Theological Seminary, focusing his studies on homiletics and pastoral care. He is currently pursuing a Doctorate of Arts in Marriage and Family Therapy at Eastern University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

At A&T, he sat on the board of several programs that reached out to troubled youth in the Greensboro area, and he served as the percussion section leader and chaplain of the A&T University Band: The Marching Machine.

While at Princeton, Rev. Benton served as a chaplain for both the Trenton Psychiatric Hospital in Trenton, New Jersey and the Association of Black Seminars at Princeton Theological Seminary. He was awarded the Aaron E. Gast Award in Urban Ministry, the Jagow Award in Homiletics and Speech, and the Ray Lindquist Award in Pastoral Care.

Rev. Benton started a community drumline in Brooklyn, New York through the Berean Community and Family Life Center. The drumline's vision is to encourage positive, holistic health in youth by providing physical activity that combats obesity, prevents disease, and encourages an overall healthy lifestyle, while simultaneously creating self-discipline and encouraging community service. Their performances include: museums, numerous church and youth ministry events, and as accompaniment for the Jamal Jackson Dance Company. They were also featured in the 2011 Black History Calendar by Aetna Healthcare. They placed second in both the 2011 Hot 97 Battle in the Apple and Battle of the Drumlines.

Rev. Benton currently serves as the Associated Pastor of the Berean Baptist Church in Brooklyn, New York under the mentorship of the Senior Pastor, Rev. Dr. Arlee Griffin, Jr. He also sits on the board of directors for the Berean Community and Family Life Center.

Rev. Benton has traveled extensively throughout the world, partnering with the National Baptist Convention in Liberia, Africa.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Rev. Byron Benton for his exceptional dedication to the youth of Brooklyn and his years of pastoral service.

REGULATIONS FROM THE EXECUTIVE IN NEED OF SCRUTINY ACT OF 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 10) to amend chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, to provide that major rules of the executive branch shall have no force or effect unless a joint resolution of approval is enacted into law:

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Chair, I rise today to oppose H.R. 10, the Regulations From the Executive in Need of Scrutiny (REINS) Act.

This bill is another instance of the Republican Majority playing politics, rather than focusing on passing legislation that creates jobs, grows our economy, and protects the American people. Requiring that Congress approve all agency rules and regulations with an annual economic cost of \$100 million or more would not only handicap our government's ability to regulate health and safety laws, it would also distract Congress from addressing pressing issues like job creation, national security and reducing our deficit. After an entire year in which the Republican Majority has demonstrated an inability to take up a productive legislative schedule—forcing last-minute votes on critical issues and not even introducing any kind of serious jobs agenda—it seems ludicrous to suggest that Congress should be spending its time nitpicking federal agencies about enacting regulations that Congress has authorized or ordered to be done.

Additionally, this bill would actually harm job creation and hurt businesses. By creating a scenario in which regulations are proposed, and then potentially overridden, and then potentially proposed yet again in a new form, businesses will be forced to spend significant time and resources just keeping track of all the changes—decreasing their productivity and bottom line. This will create uncertainty for businesses and harm job creation—the very thing that the Republican Majority asserts that this bill will prevent. This is nothing more than blatant political posturing, as evidenced by the fact that Congress already has the authority to review and override federal rules under the Congressional Review Act.

The fact is that federal agencies need to be able to issue rules in a timely and efficient manner to protect the health and welfare of the American people and help grow our economy. Industries and individuals in areas from finance to farming rely on rulemaking and regulations to facilitate their businesses, and this bill would undermine that. I urge a no vote.

IN RECOGNITION OF RICHARD J. LEONARDINI

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2011

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Captain Richard J. Leonardini, who